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Philander Chase Letters

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11-19-1816

### Letter to Philander Chase, Jr.

Philander Chase

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Hartford Nov. 19<sup>th</sup> 1819

My dear Son Philander:

I am so well pleased with your letter of the 11<sup>th</sup> inst. that I will give you an immediate reply though it be in few words. In my letter, however I will be pleased to incorporate the answer to your communication de die exhibitionis.

I like you candid above all things. It is the surest testimony of your upright intentions and correct deportment. So long as you let your Parents know all your affairs you'll be pretty sure your case is not deranged. What is wrong they will forgive and endeavour to correct in future; and what is <sup>not</sup> right they will applaud and place to your credit. I would have you think by this general remark that we have discovered any thing as yet censurable. No My dear Son, I am far from in the contemplation of your character in its first features to discover nothing but that on which you may build a reputation good and useful to yourself and the world.

I am glad to see that while you confine yourself to your own sphere in guiding your own steps - you are charitable towards others - no self created error nor mean informer - firm in the rectitude of your own deportment - not yielding to the solicitations



of the vicious you can pity them. & by your good this  
silent example endeavour to win them over to the side  
of virtue.

My eyes are filled with tears of delight when reading over  
what you wrote about the effect which the inscription  
upon bellows had on your frame when they rudely burst  
into your room: and when contemplating the unshaken  
integrity of your Chime in resisting the temptations of his  
Clap-netter for a Row. O Heavens! If you did but  
know how disgusting such things are to me you would  
not wonder being my son, at your dislike to them.  
— Cherish this distaste upon and extend it to all  
species of vice. It is a plant of virtue fixt in your  
bosom by the grace of God: it should, therefore, spread  
wide and overshadow the whole face of your char-  
acter.

The character you give of your College, Professors  
tutors Library and all was both amusing to me  
and honourable to yourself. You are minute without  
tedantry & just without censure — You praise without  
flattery — and express your reasons as a man of  
sense. Go on in this way my Son, and you'll  
have approbation of your conscience and the esteem  
of the wise and good.



What you say of the Doctrine of the Ever Blessed Trinity pleases me. God be thanked that the Lamp of true faith is not quite extinguished by the mists of heresy even in Cambridge. With an honest pious and humble mind I have no fear that you will be kept thro' the power of God into Salvation; in spite of all that Satan can do to seduce you from the faith once delivered unto the Saints.

I rec<sup>d</sup> last night a letter from your Dear Brother George. He is occasionally troubled with severe turns of the headache; so much so that his physician is obliged to cup his head and take from him in this way large quantities of blood. As to the propriety of this mode of treatment perhaps I am not a judge - but my present impressions are, that it is rather dangerous. I shall write to him, after consulting with Dr. Hume. Your Mother is still afflicted with a deep hollow cough, which alarms me. Your Grand Mother, tho' lately somewhat indisposed is now much better. Dudley has a hard time of it in getting his teeth. Still he is playful, and the most interesting child that ever lived - his Brothers excepted.

Mr. Seymour is still very low in his health. A distressing cough has settled on his lungs and many fears are entertained of his condition. Mr. J and Searborough is near his end with the same Complaint.

All our family send love to you. as if named in my letter - Your name is often, very often brought into conversation; and I'll assure you, makes no contemptible figure there.

Henry Morgan Lavinia's Brother called on us last night.

He has been living in the western part of the State of N.Y.; and is now living in Weatherfield, with a view to go in to settle in New York City. He enquired particularly after you & begged to be remembered. Tho' nearly of your age he is not larger than Sheldon.



Mr. Bath. Wm., now in this town with his wife and child at his  
 father's, is quite sick with the same disease which has lately at-  
 tacked Mrs. Ligonney. It has not proceeded to a Suppuration on  
 the lungs as that of Mr. Peab. M. S. has, but much is feared  
 that it will.  
 A subscription has been obtained to the amt. of \$300 to rebuild our organ.  
 The work will be done in the course of this winter.

Mr. Philander Chase Jun<sup>r</sup>

No. 4. Hollis Stale  
 Cambridge  
 Mass. H.



My Father  
 New York Nov 19  
 1816

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Your Mother thanks you for the affectionate remembrances  
 recorded in your letter; and in return begs me to assure you of all  
 her love and pious wishes in your behalf.

At the request of Mr & Mrs Fodor, I have been writing a long letter to  
 William, member of the Freshman class, New Haven. Sheldon &  
 C. Jones are now copying it. Don't forget me & your Mother whenever  
 you visit the excellent family of Mr. Winley. Say every thing that gra-  
 titude mingled with the tenderest affection can suggest. Your loving Father